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6 April 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 6 April 1965

General Carter was in the chair as Acting DCI.

General Carter informed the meeting of his telephone call from the President who was concerned about news accounts of heavy fighting in Vietnam, about reports of NVN reinforcements in SVN, and about the trend in general. General Carter had given the President a complete rundown of the current fighting, the status of current evidence concerning the 325th Division, and the DDCI's current judgment of the situation and outlook. The General had agreed to send a memo on all these points to the President as soon as possible, and DDI is undertaking to arrange the memo.

Current Intelligence Briefing covered: the situation in Vietnam, expansion of Communist influence in Indonesia, Communist harassment in the Berlin area in connection with the current meeting of the Bundestag in Berlin, [redacted]

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[redacted] various plans for sabotage or demonstrations by Leftists or Communists in the near future in Guatemala, Venezuela, and Bolivia, [redacted]

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AD/CI reported on DIA protests of CIA publication in the Bulletin of the information that NVN-GCI fighter control capabilities were quite extensive. This had caused SecDef to query JCS, whose advice had been to the contrary. AD/CI pointed out that we have long held that NVN-GCI capabilities were extensive, but that no one had asked about the capability and OCI had not been aware that policy considerations hinged on this aspect.

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Bross reported on his telephone chat with Secretary Vance who agrees to postponement of the NRO meeting to Thursday or Friday.

Bross reported on his conversation with Dick Bissell who wanted to ensure that his appearance on the forthcoming NBC-TV Espionage Documentary was favored by the Agency. In answer to General Carter's query, it was pointed out that Bissell has been informed that rumors indicate that the documentary will be hostile.

Houston reported that House budget hearings are now scheduled for 22 April.

[] noted that General Blake will retire effective 1 May. His successor is not known. Legislation calls for the appointment to be made by SecDef in consultation with JCS. The Director, NSA, must be a career military officer.

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Kent noted a Crosby Noyes article in the Washington Star citing "intercepts" as among evidence for Communist aggression in NVN.

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Jack Smith observed that his analysts believe the performance of NVN Mig's indicates that the particular pilots who shot down the 105's were Soviet rather than Chinese trained.

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Executive Director reported on his chats yesterday with [] and Peer de Silva.

General Carter noted that NEWSWEEK (Periscope) this week reports that Peer de Silva and at least 10 CIA operatives were put out of commission by the bombing.

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H. Knoche

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